



Lincoln



1956

HELSTON COUNCIL

BOROUGH.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G.D.K. NEEDHAM M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

for the twelve months ending,

31st. DECEMBER, 1956.

SECTION A



STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. Statistics.

Area	4,017 acres
Estimated mid-year Home Population	6,100
Average number of persons per acre	1.50
Number of inhabited houses	1,845
Average number of inhabited houses per acre	0.45
Average number of persons per house	3.30
Rateable value	£65,138
Product of a penny rate	£272

2. Live Births and Birth Rate.

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	67	61	128
Illegitimate	2	1	3
<u>Totals</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>131</u>

1956 Birth Rate (Crude) ... 21.43 per 1,000 estimated population.

Using comparability factor 0.94

Helston 1956 Birth Rate ... 20.19 per 1,000 estimated population

England & Wales Birth Rate 15.6 per 1,000 estimated population

Annual Rates	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
(Crude)	21.48	22.98	18.73	22.46	23.3

3. Stillbirths.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Totals</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

Annual Totals	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
	3	2	3	2	3

4. Neo-Natal Mortality (Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age).

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Totals</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>

Annual Totals	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
	2	4	5	5	5

5. Maternal Mortality.

Deaths attributable to pregnancy ... N I L

6. Deaths and the Death Rate.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	57	63	120
1956 Death Rate (Crude) ...	19.67 per 1,000 estimated population		
Using comparability factor 0.58			
Helston 1956 Death Rate ...	11.4 per 1,000 estimated population		
England & Wales Death Rate	11.7 per 1,000 estimated population		
Annual Rates (Crude)	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>
	19.67	20.06	18.05
			<u>1953</u>
			18.52
			<u>1952</u>
			12.60

7. Specific Death Rate.

Cardio-Vascular disease death rate	-	14.26 per 1,000 estimated population
Respiratory disease death rate	-	1.15 per 1,000 estimated population
Cancer disease death rate	-	2.46 per 1,000 estimated population

8. Deaths from all Causes in 1956.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infection	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	2	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	2	3
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	5	6	11
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	4	6	10
18. Coronary disease, angina	6	3	9
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
20. Other heart disease	18	32	50
21. Other circulatory disease	2	4	6
22. Influenza	-	1	1
23. Pneumonia	-	2	2
24. Bronchitis	-	2	2
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	2	-	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis & nephrosis	1	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformation	-	-	-
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	6	1	7
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34. All other accidents	-	-	-
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
- 2 - TOTALS	<u>48</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>111</u>

9. Population Growth.

	<u>Registrar General's Estimated Figure</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Birth & Death Ratio</u>
1950	5,220	67	74	- 7
1951	5,601	85	97	- 8
1952	5,706	133	72	+61
1953	5,787	130	109	+21
1954	5,820	112	105	+ 7
1955	5,830	134	117	+17
1956	6,100	131	120	+11

10.

Using comparability Factors		England and Wales	160 County Boroughs & Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns (Res- ident Popu- lation 25,000 - 50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Admin- istra- tive County
Births - 0.94	Helston				
Deaths - 0.58	Borough				

<u>Births</u>	(Rates per 1,000 Home Population)				
Live Births	20.19	15.6	15.6	15.6	15.9
Still-births	0.49	0.36	-	-	-

<u>Deaths</u>					
All Causes	11.41	11.7	11.6	11.6	11.7
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.00	0.12	0.14	0.11	0.14
Influenza	0.16	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.04
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia	0.32	0.52	0.57	0.45	0.67

Comment.

Births and Birth Rate.

The total number of births in the Borough remains at the high level which has been shown over the last 5 years, and even when using the comparability factor to amend the figure in view of the unusual distribution of age groups of the population, it still remains at just over 20 per 1,000 population compared with 15.6 for the rest of the United Kingdom. Figures like these are only found in places where there is a high proportion of younger people in the population and most of those comparable in the United Kingdom are found in the New Towns around London and in the North.

Stillbirths and Infant Mortality.

The stillbirth figure remains as in previous years but a considerable reduction in the number of infant deaths has occurred in the past year, there being only in fact 2 such deaths and these both occurred in premature infants on the day of their birth; in fact no infant deaths occurred in any of the children between 2 days and 1 year old.

Deaths and Death Rate.

The crude annual death rate remained extremely high, but the Registrar General gives a very remarkable comparability factor to allow for the unusual population structure and this figure applied to the crude rate produces an amended rate slightly less than that for the United Kingdom. These comparability figures take into account the different numbers of people in each group in the population. That for the birth rate is obviously connected with the number of married women of child bearing age in the population and equally obviously is also affected by the number of children and by the number of elderly people, whereas the factor produced for deaths is not connected with marriage or fertility, but is more closely connected with old age. Hence the comparability factor for births and deaths are different; in the Borough the factor for births is 0.94 which tends to reduce the birth rate a little and is presumed to indicate some excess of young married women in the population, whereas the factor for deaths 0.58 indicates a very high proportion of elderly people and therefore reduces the overall death rate to quite a sensible figure when applied to it. It does seem therefore, when as many factors as possible have been taken into consideration it still remains true that the Borough has a high birth rate and an average death rate. By far and away the commonest cause of death was heart disease of one sort or another, total deaths from this cause being 78 which is slightly below last year's figure, the only two other common causes of death were cancer 15 and respiratory disease 7. This very very high predominance of heart disease of one type or another fully confirms the supposition about the number of old people in the population which has been drawn from the comparability factor 0.58.

The following table shows how the deaths were distributed:-

	<u>Neo-Natal Deaths</u> <u>(0 - 4 weeks)</u>		<u>Infant Deaths</u> <u>(4 - 52 weeks)</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Prematurity	6	2	-	-
Asphyxia	1	1	-	-
Birth Injury	3	-	-	-
Infection	1	1	-	-
Abnormality	-	1	2	-
Other disease	-	1	1	-
	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

The following table shows whether stillborn children were premature or not, and also their place of birth.

<u>Born in Hospital</u>	Premature Infants ...	4
	Full-time Infants ...	3
<u>Born at Home</u>	Premature Infants ...	1
	Full-time Infants ...	2
Total Hospital Births		102
Total Home Births		187

These figures show that prematurity is the major problem in dealing with perinatal mortality, and it is to the discovery of the underlying question that a considerable amount of research is now being done.

13. Deaths and the Death Rate.

Again there has been a moderate increase in the total number of deaths compared with the previous year, and in this case it has been found that the death rate itself has risen considerably after last year's very low figure. It will be seen from the specific death rate table that there have been a very large increase in deaths from respiratory disease which accounts largely for the total increase in deaths.

Respiratory Disease rates per 1,000 population.

	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>
Kerrier R.D.C.	1.01	0.55	0.68	0.69
Municipal Borough	1.15	1.37	1.88	1.38
U.D.C.	1.47	0.90	0.93	1.47

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

This section covers both Kerrier Rural District and Helston Borough, as all services are shared alike between them, and certain services, such as Home Help and St. John Ambulance are specifically provided for both areas without distinction.

1. Hospital Services.

Patients may be treated at Camborne-Redruth Miners' and General Hospital, The Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, The Falmouth and District Hospital, The West Cornwall Hospital, Penzance, or Helston Cottage Hospital, depending on the needs and residence of the patient.

Tuberculosis inpatient treatment is centred at Tehidy Hospital, Camborne, and out-patient and contact clinics are held at Camborne, Falmouth and Penzance.

The Geriatric Unit is centred at Barncoose Hospital, Redruth, with annexes at Meneage House, Helston and Budock House, Falmouth.

2. Midwifery, Nursing and Health Visiting Services.

Home Nursing and midwifery are undertaken by the District Nurse/Midwives, who are also Health Visitors, with responsibility for the care of children up to school age.

District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitors at present cover the following areas:-

Helston	Culdrose	Porthleven	Gernoe
Breage	Crowan	Sithney	Mabe
Budock	Mawman Smith	Wendron	Ruan Minor
Mullion	St. Keverne	St. Martin	Mewgan

3. Work done by Nursing Services in 1956.

	<u>Kerrier</u>	<u>Helston</u>
Domiciliary Confinements	187	71
School Medical Inspections	58	19
School Cleanliness Inspections	138	33
General Nursing Visits	17,763	3,262
Midwifery, Maternity, Ante-Natal and Post-Natal visits	7,068	2,966
Health Visits	6,564	3,035
School Follow-up visits	139	54
Tuberculosis Domiciliary Visits ...	1,138	793
Diphtheria Immunization Sessions in schools	16	17

4. Infant Welfare Clinics.

This is held weekly (Wednesday afternoon) at Meneage House, Helston, and is principally attended by mothers and children from the Borough itself although some parents attend from further afield.

	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
No. of sessions held	51	51	51	51	51
Total attendances during the year	1445	1579	1355	1608	1551
Average attendance per session	28	39	27	31	30
Highest attendance at any one session	30	42	35	49	58

5. Home Help Service.

The Service is administered by the W.V.S. from the offices of Kerrier Rural District Council, and covers most of the area except some parts near Falmouth and in the North of the district nearer Camborne and Redruth, which are supplied with Home Helps from their respective nearest centres.

No. of Maternity cases supplied with domestic assistance	13
No. of cases assisted owing to illness in the home	13
No. of cases assisted owing to Old Age and Infirmary	22
No. of hours Home Helps were employed in respect of above ...	9,650

6. Welfare Foods.

Welfare Foods is distributed from the following centres by the W.V.S.

Meneage House, Helston	Wednesday	2 to 4 p.m.
	Thursday	2 to 4 p.m.
Mawgan Cross, Helston	Tuesday	10 to 12 noon
Trelawney, Gunwalloe	Friday	2 to 4 p.m.
Choon Farm, Manaccan	Daily	9 to 4 p.m.
The Pharmacy, Mullion	Daily	9 to 4 p.m.
Lyonessse, Mullion	Tuesday	10 to 5 p.m.
The Post Office, Breage	Daily	9 to 4 p.m.
The Chemist, Porthleven (Liquid only)	Tuesday	2 to 4 p.m.
Fore Street, Porthleven .. (N.D. Milk only)	Tuesday	2 to 4 p.m.
The Post Office, Praa Sands	Daily	9 to 4 p.m.
The Vicarge, St. Keverne	Daily	9 to 4 p.m.
Bay Stores, Coverack	Daily	9 to 4 p.m.
Women's Institute, Constantine	Thursday	10 to 12 noon
The Stores, The Lizard	Daily	9 to 4 p.m.
The Stores, Stithians	Daily	9 to 4 p.m.
The Post Office, Crowntown	Daily	9 to 4 p.m.

7. Ambulance Service.

The day cover for the district is provided primarily by the County Ambulance Service from the Redruth Depot, which operates 4 radio - controlled ambulances and 4 utiliceons without a radio. One additional utiliceon is stationed at Gunwalloe and this is under wireless control from Redruth. The extreme Eastern part of Kerrier, from Ponsanooth to Budock is under the care of the County Ambulances based at Falmouth.

By night, and at weekends, cover is provided by St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Helston Ambulance is on call for the bulk of the area, but it is reinforced as required by ambulances at Penzance, St. Ives, Hayle, Camborne, Illogan, Redruth and Falmouth.

The following table is a summary of the work carried out by the Helston St. John Ambulance during the year, in addition to other removals carried out by the County Ambulance Service. Comparison is made with the previous two years:-

Month	1956		1955		1954	
	Patients Conveyed	Miles Covered	Patients Conveyed	Miles Covered	Patients Conveyed	Miles Covered
January	15	413	28	753	20	393
February	25	805	11	266	20	499
March	31	769	35	1,056	24	618
April	27	730	29	617	38	919
May	25	793	24	635	24	569
June	27	731	19	587	20	505
July	34	1,081	34	1,002	36	998
August	28	783	25	754	32	856
September	32	891	32	821	29	604
October	20	634	17	427	39	939
November	28	830	18	517	23	641
December	26	775	18	497	30	873
TOTALS	318	9,235	290	7,932	335	8,114

8. Dental Services.

These are provided by the County Council under the direction of a Chief Dental Officer. Each school is periodically visited, and when treatment is required arrangements are made for attendance at Meneage House, Helston, where dental clinic sessions are held weekly. Treatment is also provided at the clinic for pre-school children and nursing mothers when referred by the appropriate Medical Officer.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

1. Notifications of Infectious Diseases during the year 1956 with comparative figures for the four preceding years.

Helston and Kerrier Districts (combined).

Disease	Kerrier	1956 Helston	Total	1955	1954	1953	1952
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	15	10	25	11	8	37	49
Whooping Cough	5	-	5	52	173	12	24
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	156	86	242	390	1	393	8
Pneumonia	2	-	2	3	3	3	6
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	7	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	2	1	-	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	11	8	19	17	26	20	16
Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	4	4	7	2

2. Infectious Disease Rates 1956 (per 1,000 estimated population)

Disease	Kerrier R.D.	Helston Borough	England and Wales
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meningococcal Infection	0.00	0.00	0.02
Scarlet Fever	0.66	1.64	0.14
Whooping Cough	0.22	0.00	2.06
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00
Erysipelas	0.00	0.00	0.09
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	6.86	14.1	3.59
Pneumonia	0.11	0.00	0.56
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Poli- encephalitis)			
Paralytic	0.00	0.00	0.03
Non-Paralytic	0.00	0.00	0.03
Food Poisoning	0.00	0.00	0.26
Puerperal Pyrexia	0.00(a)	0.00(a)	16.32(a)
Dysentery	0.00	0.00	1.10

(a) per 1,000 live and still-births

Comment.

Both districts remained almost completely free of infectious diseases during the year except for a thin scattering of measles. Once again there were no cases of poliomyelitis reported.

3. IMMUNISATION and VACCINATION.

Kerrier Rural District.

Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus - 1956

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Refresher</u>
0 - 5 years	55	6
5 -15 years	-	4
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>10</u>

Diphtheria/Whooping Cough - 1956

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Refresher</u>
0 - 5 years	98	32
5 -15 years	6	5
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>104</u>	<u>37</u>

Diphtheria - 1956

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Refresher</u>
0 - 5 years	5	-
5 -15 years	2	180
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>180</u>

Total number of immunized children.

0 - 5 years	708	} 69.22%
5 -15 years	2,193	
	<u>2,901</u>	

Helston Borough.

Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus - 1956

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Refresher</u>
0 - 5 years	46	-
5 -15 years	1	-
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>-</u>

Helston Borough contd.

Diphtheria/Whooping Cough - 1956

	Primary	Refresher
0 - 5 years	51	1
5 -15 years	2	2
TOTALS	<u>53</u>	<u>3</u>

Diphtheria - 1956

	Primary	Refresher
0 - 5 years	3	-
5 -15 years	-	-
	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>

Total number of immunized children.

0 - 5 years	294	} 79.31%
5 -15 years	655	
	<u>949</u>	

Whooping Cough Immunization.

	Primary		Refresher	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
Kerrier R.D.	159	252	47	75
Helston Borough	100	108	3	4

The number of children immunized against diphtheria is only slightly below the figure for 1955.

During the year we began the use of the triple, Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus vaccine and from now on immunisation against tetanus will be available to all children at the age of two months, and will also be available to any child whose parents request it. The immunisation has considerable advantages in the prevention of tetanus over the anti-tetanic serum at present used in cases where there is a suspicion or a fear that the wound may be infected with tetanus.

Smallpox Vaccination.

The following vaccinations were carried out in 1956:-

Kerrier Rural District.

	Primary Vaccination	Re-vaccination	Total
0 - 5 years	103	1	104
5 -15 years	7	4	11
Over 15 years	12	37	49
TOTALS	<u>122</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>164</u>

Smallpox Vaccination (contd.)

Helston Borough.

	<u>Primary Vaccination</u>	<u>Re-vaccination</u>	<u>Total</u>
0 - 5 years	57	1	58
5 -15 years	-	-	-
Over 15 years	4	7	11
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>69</u>

4. Polionyelitis - (Figures for combined District of Camborne-Redruth U.D.C., Kerrier R.D.C. and Helston Borough Council).

In 1956 for the first time in the United Kingdom a vaccine against polionyelitis was produced for public use. It was extensively tested both for effectiveness and for safety and was found to be satisfactory in both respects.

It was therefore proposed by the Ministry of Health to register the names of all children born between 1954 and 1947, inclusive, whose parents wished them to be immunised against polionyelitis. This was done by house to house visiting by Health Visitors and District Nurses and was extremely time consuming. As a result of this visiting, out of the total of approximately 7,700 in the age group the names of 1,670, which is about 22%, were registered. It was thought at the time that this small percentage was due somewhat to the adverse results which had arisen in America following the use of incompletely safety tested batch of vaccine.

However a second chance was offered to the parents of these children who had not previously registered in 1956, and of this total of approximately 6,000 only 736 availed themselves of the opportunity to register. The total registration is therefore approximately 1 in 3 of all children in this age group. During the year vaccine was offered to children born in November in the years 1947 to 1954 and in March in the years 1951 to 1954.

Camborne-Redruth U.D.C.	135 vaccinated
Kerrier R.D.C.	50 "
Helston Borough Council	23 "

From all these immunisations no adverse results were reported by parents, and it would appear that the vaccine is completely without reaction. The number of children vaccinated of course is extremely small and until there are largennumbers of children who have been vaccinated and epidemics of polionyelitis have occurred, it will not be possible to check its effect either as a protector of the individual child or an agent in suppressing epidemics.

4. Tuberculosis.

Age Distribution of New Cases and Mortality during 1956

Kerrier Rural District.

Age Groups	New Cases						Deaths					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
0 - 1 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -45 years	6	5	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -65 years	2	2	4	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-
65 and over	3	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
<u>T O T A L S</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Age Groups	New Cases						Deaths					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
0 - 1 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -45 years	3	8	11	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -65 years	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L S	4	9	13	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Kerrier	Helston
No. of cases on Register at 31.12.56.	145	45
New cases notified	13	8
No. restored to Register	4	-
No. of cases transferred from other areas	6	5
No. of cases transferred to other areas	16	2
Removed from Register as cured	5	1
No. died	3	-
New cases per 1,000 population	0.84	2.27
Death rate per 1,000 population	0.17	-

Contacting Tracing 1956.

	Kerrier	Helston
Cases on Register	145	45
Contacts under 20	20	14
Refused	5	4
Skin Tested	15	10
Awaiting Test at 31.12.56.	-	-
Results of Skin Tests (Mantoux Tests)		
Positive (Immune)	13	5
Negative (Susceptible)	2	5

B.C.G. Vaccination of Negative reactors.

Offered B.C.G. Vaccination	2	5
Accepted B.C.G. Vaccination	2	5
Refused B.C.G. Vaccination	-	-
Awaiting B.C.G. Vaccination	-	-
Other B.C.G. Vaccinations of remote contacts	-	-
Total B.C.G. Vaccinations	2	5

In Kerrier 2 out of 2 skin-test-negative contacts accepted vaccination, and in Helston all 5 such contacts consented to be vaccinated.

This vaccination of contacts is an important part of control of the disease as by this means we are able to prevent relatives and friends of known cases from remaining susceptible to the disease. This tends to restrict the number of people who can be infected by the disease and gradually builds up a wall of immunity around each patient, thereby saving others and at the same time making the patient less likely to worry about any possible danger to friends and relations.

A further part is played by B.C.G. vaccination in the protection of susceptible children before they leave school. (The figures for this are found in the next set of tables).

Number of children in the age group 263

Skin Testing.

No. of children whose parents have refused investigation 66

Skin Testing.

No. of children whose parents have refused investigation	66
No. of children awaiting investigation at 31.12.56.	48
No. of children skin tested	145
<u>Totals</u>	<u>259</u>
No. of children previously seen at the Chest Clinic	3
No. of children not tested on medical advice	1

Result of Skin Tests.

Already Immune	23
Not Immune	107
No. absent for inspection of test	15
<u>Totals</u>	<u>145</u>

Vaccination.

B.C.G. Vaccinated	105
Awaiting B.C.G. vaccination	2
<u>Totals</u>	<u>107</u>

Level of Immunity in those tested.

Out of the 130 children skin tested and inspected only 23, or 17.7% had reached a stage where immunity could be assumed, 82.3% (107) were still susceptible. 105 were then vaccinated leaving 2 to be vaccinated later.

S T A F F

Surveyor & Public Health
Inspector.

N. E. Whitby, A.I.A.S. A.F.S.
M.R. San. I. A.M.I. San. E.,
M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B.

Public Health Inspector.

W. T. Murphy, Cert. S.I.B.
A.R. San. I. M.S.I.A.

Clerk of Works

W. E. Dingle.

Shorthand-Typist/Clerk.

Miss B. Brown.

The year under review has been one of continued activity, with an increase in the field of housing and food premises.

Slum Clearance has continued slowly but surely, with two areas being made and one Order confirmed with the Clearance of this and one other site relating to an Order made last year. Negotiations have been completed for the purchase of the site of the other area and we are awaiting the Minister's sanction. The Council has accepted undertakings from owners in respect of four dwellings which were found to be unfit but impracticable to demolish. Generally speaking the condition of houses continues to deteriorate and we await the introduction of the Rent Act to see what improvements will be brought about by the guarantee of financial rewards for repaired and improved properties.

Meat inspection has taken an enormous amount of time and whilst every endeavour is made to inspect all carcasses this has proved to be impossible by the increased numbers of animals slaughtered due to greater exportation of meat.

Food premises have been kept under constant review and it is encouraging to see the improvements brought about by informal action and co-operation of the traders.

Work in connection with rodent control has increased this year and it is encouraging to find a greater willingness on the part of the householder to disclose the presence of rats.

The routine work of the department has continued and whilst unspectacular the benefits will be felt over a long period.

I should like to thank the staff for their co-operation and hard work as an enormous amount of overtime has been worked in order to achieve these results.

WATER SUPPLY

The Borough of Helston is supplied with water from the mains of the Helston & Porthleven Water Company. All water is sterilized by automatic chlorination before entering the mains. The sources of supply are :-

(1) Tregathenan - a 3,000,000 gallon impounding reservoir fed from the catchment area by springs etc. The water is soft and wholesome, and largely free from dissolved organic matter. The mains of Helston & Porthleven are fed from this source.

(2) River Cober, Wendron - water is taken from a branch into the river and pumped to the modern plant at Three Cross, where it is subjected to high pressure filtration and sterilization before being pumped into the mains that supply the higher levels of Helston.

(3) A supplementary source of supply is from old mine adits at Trelassick. This water is slightly hard in character and is used to "top up" the reservoir at Tregathenan when rainfall is low. It is filtered and chlorinated before pumping.

Samples for bacteriological examination were taken from the two Wards with the following results :-

<u>Ward</u>	<u>Samples submitted</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Helston	9	7	2
Porthleven	2	2	-

Where unsatisfactory results were obtained the matter was referred to the Water Company for necessary action, and subsequent follow-up samples were satisfactory.

SEWERAGE

Helston Ward

Sewage from the higher levels of the town is carried to the disposal plant by gravity.

During 1956 work was started on a new 15" relief sewer, from Coinagehall Street through the new Ministry of Supply Housing Estate to the Sewage Works. When completed this relief sewer will drain almost the whole of the higher part of the town, relieving the sewers in the low-lying parts which are at present grossly overloaded. The construction of the new sewer will also cater for future building development.

The sewage disposal works are of modern design and after primary filtration, settlement and aeration, the effluent is discharged into the River Cober.

Samples of the effluent taken by the Cornwall River Board were not satisfactory, and the Pollution Prevention Officer reported this was undoubtedly due to the large amount of blood passing into the sewers from the slaughterhouse. Action was initiated to secure the provision of a suitable interceptor at the slaughterhouse to take out the bulk of the blood from the sewers.

Porthleven Ward

The sewerage system here is by outfalls to the sea.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

During the year a survey of food premises was undertaken following the coming into operation of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955. Good results have been obtained in raising the standards of hygiene. The survey included the inspection of school canteens. Excellent co-operation has been forthcoming from the Cornwall Education Authority who implemented the recommendations made by the Public Health Inspector.

FOOD PREMISES

The number of food premises in the area is given below under the type of business. Where a mixed business is carried on the premises are included under the designation of the primary business.

Hotels	8	Confectioners & Ice Cream Dealers	7
Cafes	7	Dairies	4
Public Houses	8	Other Milk Distributors	4
School Canteens	4	Grocers	33
Bakehouses	4	Greengrocers	4
Baker's Shops	4	Wet Fish Shops	2
Butchers	10	Fried Fish Shops	6
Sausage Manufacturers	1	Brewery	1
Ice Cream Manufacturer	1	Slaughterhouse	1

Food Sampling

Sampling of food for analysis, to ensure that food standards are complied with, is carried out by officers of the Weights and Measures Department of Cornwall County Council. The following are details of samples taken during 1956, kindly supplied by the Divisional Inspector.

<u>Article.</u>	<u>No. or quantity Procured</u>	<u>Genuine .</u>	<u>Adulterated.</u>
Beef Sausages.	1	1	
Beef Suet.	1	1	
Butter.	3	3	
Chicken Pate.	1	1	
Cooking Fat.	1	1	
Custard Powder.	1	1	
Dripping.	2	2	
Full Cream Milk Chocolate.	1	1	
Ginger Fairings.	1	1	
Lard.	1	1	
Margarine.	1	1	
Milk	18	18	
Mince meat.	1	1	
Non Alcoholic Raisin Flavour Cordial	1	1	
" " Ginger Cordial	1	1	
Nut Milk Chocolate.	1	1	
Pork Sausages	2	2	
Strawberry Jam.	1	1	
	39	39	nil

There were no adulterated samples found within the Borough of Helston during the year.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1953 - Exemption Certificates

Five exemption certificates were granted in respect of Regulation 19 (facilities for washing food, and equipment) and one exemption certificate issued in respect of Regulation 16 (provision of wash-hand basin).

Ice-Cream

Three premises were registered during the year for the sale and storage of ice-cream.

The total number of premises now registered is:-

Manufacturers 1
Ice-Cream Dealers 23

Twenty-three samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Truro with the following results:-

Produced	No. of samples	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
In Borough	21	9	6	5	1
Outside Borough	2	2	-	-	-
T O T A L	23	11	6	5	1

The unsatisfactory samples were from one manufacturer, and after investigation the cause was found to be due to incorrect plant sterilizing technique. Advice was given and subsequent samples were Grade 1.

Milk

The number of registrations in respect of milk supply at the end of the year was:-

Dairies 4
Distributors 8

SALUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS 1933 - 54

Eight persons are licensed to slaughter animals under the above Acts.

Byelaws Relating to Private Slaughterhouses

The Council has made byelaws under the Food & Drugs Act, 1955 for securing sanitary conditions and management of private slaughterhouses.

Meat Inspection

Slaughtering continued at a high level compared to 1954. The percentage of condemnations was again lower than the previous year. A particular encouraging feature was the absence of congenital tuberculosis in calves.

The following particulars are given of the animals slaughtered:-

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>COWS</u>	<u>CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS</u>	<u>SHEEP</u>	<u>PIGS</u>	<u>CALVES</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
January	93	63	661	3627	504	4948
February	39	37	342	1890	213	2521
March	86	58	318	4060	482	5004
April	70	58	883	3243	356	4610
May	38	54	1018	2095	262	3467
June	43	45	1037	3055	180	4360
July	34	52	662	2158	200	3106
August	56	83	573	3058	324	4094
September	47	62	248	2276	248	2881
October	43	64	234	2302	541	3184
November	66	99	254	2475	490	3384
December	40	83	305	3105	223	3756
TOTALS	655	758	6535	33344	4023	45315

CARCASES & OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	<u>CATTLE excluding COWS</u>	<u>COWS</u>	<u>CALVES</u>	<u>SHEEP & LAMBS</u>	<u>PIGS</u>	<u>HORSES</u>
Number killed	758	655	4023	6535	33344	-
Number inspected	758	655	4023	6535	28342	-
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis & cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	9	4	12	80	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	138	269	5	570	1577	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	18.34	42.44	0.2	8.91	5.84	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	4	13	-	-	19	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was cond.	61	140	-	-	1106	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8.58	23.36	-	-	3.97	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parts of carcasses	-	1	-	-	-	-

Total quantity of meat condemned:- 26 tons, 0 cwts, 3 qrs.

Disposal of Unsound Meat.

This is voluntarily surrendered by the owners and is disposed of by a reputable contractor. The meat and offal is sterilised and processed for fertilizers by modern plant.

UNSOUND FOOD

The following food was voluntarily surrendered from the shops and condemned:-

MEAT 107 lbs.

MEAT PRODUCTS

Beef Loaf	3 lbs.	12 ozs.
Beef Steak Pudding	7 lbs.	
Corned Beef	43 lbs.	8 ozs.
Canned Ham	127 lbs.	2 ozs.
Canned Tongues	38 lbs.	8 ozs.
Luncheon Meat	20 lbs.	7 ozs.
Jellied Veal	12 lbs.	

FISH

Kipper	1 stone
Cod	3 stone
Lemon Sole	1 stone

OTHER FOOD

Canned Chicken	34 lbs.	
Canned Fish	1 lb.	7 ozs.
Canned Milk	2 lbs.	8 ozs.
Canned Fruit	51 lbs.	7 ozs.
Canned Jam	1 lb.	8 ozs.
Canned Vegetables	3 lbs.	9 ozs.
Canned Soup	26 lbs.	4 ozs.
Jelly	18 lbs.	
Prunes	60 lbs.	
Cheese	5 lbs.	

Total weight of canned goods - 3 cwts., 1 qrs., 9 lbs.

DISPOSAL OF UNSOUND FOOD

Small amounts are destroyed or disposed, under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector. Large quantities are removed to the refuse tips.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

Canteens	18	Greengrocers	44
Restaurants	32	Confectioners	12
Hotel Kitchens	5	Wet Fish Shops	37
Bakehouses	17	Fried Fish Shops	36
Grocers	214	Dairies	12
Ice-Cream Dealers	44	Slaughterhouse	594
Butchers	80		

SUMMARY OF WORKS COMPLETED DURING 1956 IN FOOD PREMISES AS A RESULT OF INFORMAL ACTION

Sinks renewed	2	Water Closet provided	1
Wash basins provided	28	Sinks provided	16
Hot & Cold water)	11	Hot water supply provided	27
supplies provided)		Walls & Ceilings decorated	48
Walls & Ceilings repaired	23	Floors repaired or renewed	3

HOUSING

The Council's programme of new building has eased off, not because of lack of need but due to a changed policy of subsidy and to increased costs. This perhaps is the most frustrating part of the years work, knowing that many families are sharing accommodation, and many are occupying sub-standard properties, and yet only being able to touch the fringe of this problem.

HOUSING STATISTICS

Number of Post-War Houses erected from 1st. April 1945 to 31st. December 1956		Housing Programme for 1957	
By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise	For Slum Clearance	For Other purposes
298	89	18	16

(a) No. of temporary housing units occupied - (i) Prefabs 10
(ii) Huts, etc. -

(b) No. of houses found overcrowded -

(c) No. of houses made fit during year 21

Houses required

(i) To replace houses scheduled for demolition 56

(ii) To abate overcrowding -

(iii) For other purposes 44

Total number of applications for Council Houses at the end of the year 305

Total number of Council Houses sold during year -

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS MADE UNDER THE HOUSING ACT 1949-54

No. of applications and houses dealt with by Local Authority:-

	(1) Received		(2) Approved		(3) Rejected	
	Aps.	No. of dwellings	Aps.	No. of dwellings	Aps.	No. of dwellings
31.7.49. to 31.12.55.	31	31	25	25	5	5
During year	16	16	16	16	-	-

NOTE - Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers 46

Average cost per dwelling approved:- £196. 0s. 0d.

Average rent fixed:- 16s. 9d. per week

Amount of grant payable by L.A.
stated as % 43.7%

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Public Health Acts	238	Building Bye-Laws	112
Housing Acts	162	Cemeteries	150
Shops Acts	14	Market	74
Factories	23	Council Houses	74
Sewage Plant	110	Infectious Disease Enquiries	7
Refuse Tips	140		

RODENT CONTROL

Survey 115

Complaints 24

Treated 24

SUMMARY OF WORKS COMPLETED DURING 1956 AS A RESULT OF INFORMAL ACTION FOLLOWING INSPECTIONS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH & HOUSING ACTS

Connections to sewer	5
Drains repaired and/or cleansed	9
Flushing Apparatus repaired or renewed	2
Chimney Stacks repaired	2
Walls repaired and decorated	18
Ceilings repaired and decorated	8
Accumulations of rubbish removed	6
Roofs repaired	8
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	3

Gutters repaired or renewed	2
Dampness remedied	9
Windows repaired	5
Fireplaces renewed	1
Dwellings provided with main water supply	1
Sinks provided	1
Inspection Chamber provided	1

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Controlled tipping is carried out at Helston and Porthleven. Rodent control at the tips is carried out at frequent intervals.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:-

PREMISES	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	24	7	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	43	16	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	6	-	-	-

